

The
Frances Shimer
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Private Education in the Middle West¹

If when reading a book or magazine, one chances to meet a familiar name or the picture of a certain well-known or well-loved place, he usually experiences a certain feeling of pleasure. Such must have been the sensation of those friends of the Frances Shimer School who happened to read the August number of the *World To-Day*, for occupying almost a full page in it were two pictures entitled "May Day at the Frances Shimer School" and "College Hall, Frances Shimer School."

These pictures were two of the illustrations for an article on the subject, "Private Education in the Middle West," by Professor Nathaniel Butler of the University of Chicago. Mr. Butler, who, it may be remarked, made last June the speech at the dedication of College Hall, the newest building at Frances Shimer, is a man well suited to discuss this topic, being, as he is, professor of education at the University of Chicago.

Although in the course of his article Mr. Butler speaks of the Frances Shimer School by name only once, his remarks are made in such a way that they can be applied to any of the schools he mentions. In beginning his paper, he says, telling of the way in which these western private schools meet the needs of their pupils: "Almost the first impression received from acquaintance

¹ The title of an article by Nathaniel Butler in the *World To-Day*, August, 1910.

My Convent Life

It has been several years since I was in the convent, but the life I led there was such that no matter how long I live, I think I shall never forget the three years I spent there.

When I came to this country from England I was a very little girl, and my mother, not having her plans very well settled, decided that a convent was just the place for me. So I was sent.

At first I suffered from that awful homesickness, but I seemed to show my feelings differently from the way most people do, for the moment my mother was out of sight I began to scream and stamp my feet and would not be good until I was given a large banana and an apple.

My next trial came when I was taken into the classroom where my future companions were busily engaged with their primers. As I entered I thought surely each girl had more than one pair of eyes, for never before had I seen so many eyes all turned in my direction. At last I reached my desk, but even then, as I looked around, I imagined I saw eyes looking at me from everywhere. This, however, was not the worst that was to befall me, for when recreation time came and the little girls came timidly up to ask my name, and where I lived, I was made to feel that I was a very peculiar girl and not one they cared to play with, just because I didn't talk as they did. As time went on and I was still mocked and teased about my English accent, I decided that before I made many friends I must learn to talk as the other girls did.

These were about the worst of my troubles, however, and before long I was having as good a time as any of the minims. The minims! What babies we really were, the littlest girls in school, and yet how big we thought we were to be away from home and to have books to study, desks which opened from the top, and a classroom all our own.

It was a busy day we had there! Let me see if I can remember the routine. First of all, most of the girls had to get up at half-past five for Mass, but we Protestants could sleep until six. How often I congratulated myself upon being a Protestant! Before breakfast we had to comb our hair the best way we could, but, after breakfast, when our beds were made, twenty little girls filed into the lavatory to have their hair nicely combed for the day. By eight o'clock the twenty little girls emerged from the lavatory with hair smoothed tightly back, all ready for school at half-past eight. Until half-past eleven there was the usual performance of

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

catechism, reading, writing, history, and the other little-girl studies. If anyone was caught whispering during school hours she was sure to get discredits and that might make her lose her chance of wearing the Faith, Hope, and Charity medal for a week. The girl with the least number of marks against her had this wonderful medal pinned on her dress Sunday afternoon to wear for a week or until someone won it away from her. At half-past eleven we always went for our walk, and such fun we had deciding where we should go. There was the "Duck Pond," but to get there we were obliged to pass through a field where there were many cows, and, of course, when anyone had told us we always had to give up the idea of the "Duck Pond." Then there was the "Marble House," where the crazy people lived. I shall never forget how we had it all figured out that Sister surely had some friend or relative there because she always wanted to go that way. The street past the public school was very interesting, for often we passed just as the children were getting out of the building, but how glad I was that I didn't go to public school where the girls were so boisterous!

Dinner was welcome after our long walk, but it did seem to take such a long time for the girls to get into rank! and such a long time as it took for the girls to eat dinner, for food was called right afterward in the dining room. How proud I used to be when my name was called, and I had to walk up the aisle to get my letter from Sister! Once, I remember, I got such a fat one and in it were three lovely handkerchiefs with bright, wide borders. Oh! how the girls did envy me!

After dinner we played until class hour came again, at half-past one. How tired I used to get as the afternoon dragged out! My eyes would wander to the window and I would wish I could be out-of-doors, running and playing instead of trying to study that tiresome geography. In the midst of my wishing the Sister would probably come in with lunch and put two big plates of sandwiches or tarts on the window sill. Then I knew that half-past three was close at hand, when we could play to our heart's content. Half-past four came all too soon, for back to study we went. Woe be unto any little girl caught dozing out her desk or pencil box! she was likely to have to come in from play early next day or go to bed right after supper. Play time came again after our six o'clock supper, when we all little girls and big girls, went to the Assembly Hall. The little ones sat by the big

palms made lovely play houses, and there was never any trouble to find sufficient members for a good large family. Some evenings Father came to the Assembly Hall and sang for us. How funny he was when he *yodled* and when he sang "Oh! Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" Half-past seven rolled around long before we expected it, but at the tap of the bell we little minims knew that it meant form in line and up to prayers, which were said before the "Sacred Heart." No one ever spoke after prayers, for that meant disrepute, and, as we got ready for bed after our busy day, all was silent.

Perhaps I can recall some of the particular incidents of my life at the convent. We had beautiful grounds and spent a great deal of time out-of-doors, jumping rope and playing every game from "Squat Tag" to "Show." I remember many afternoons I spent either standing by the scarred window-sill in the classroom or sitting on the cement steps, surrounded by a crowd of little friends, all of us playing "Jacks." Let me see: there were "Strawberries in the Basket," "Round the World," "Sweeps," "Knocks," and oh! so many other games with such interesting names which all belonged to this one game called "Jack!" Then there was the merry-go-round, and what fun it was! Of course we had to run and push it in order to get a good start, but it kept going for a long time after we had jumped on. Perhaps, if one were a very little girl, an older girl might come and put her off, for everyone liked to ride on the merry-go-round.

What good times and also what dull times we did have at the table! During some meals we were not allowed to talk when Sister stood on the platform and read out of the Prayer-book. During the meals when we could talk Sister walked up and down, managing to be near the minims' long table most of the time. If any little girl did not hold her spoon just right or if she reached too far for anything Sister always seemed to see it. How nice it was if one's special friend did not care for some kinds of dessert! I remember one girl who didn't care for strawberries, and how we all did wish that we happened to be her special friend! We were always glad when there was fruit for dessert, for then we could take it out-of-doors or upstairs with us to eat in the playroom.

We did not have fun all the time, however, for, even if we were only little girls, we often were punished just as much as the older girls. One punishment I had seems to stand out clearer in my mind than the others, although I know I really had plenty. It was one Valentine's Day and I with some of my little friends had

spent a very pleasant afternoon in sewing—last, talking, and laughing, but had been reported to our class Sister for misconduct. That night we were sent to bed without any supper, but worst of all, Sister let me go without giving me a package which had come for me that day. I had seen it in her hand as we stood in line receiving her report, and I knew it was a beautiful, long valentine. Of course she gave it to me the next morning, but somehow I never could forgive her for keeping that package over night. She never knew, however, how I stayed awake trying to picture how my valentine would look.

One of my happiest concert days was the one on which I received a letter from my mother, who had been in Europe for two years, saying that she was sailing for home in a week and would soon be with me. I did not realize that she really could come to me until one night as I was just ready for bed I was told to dress quickly and go downstairs. Never before had I been so excited, and never again do I expect to experience such happiness as I did when I walked into the parlor where my mother was sitting with open arms to take me home.

IVE CALDWELL.

About the Timber Line

Have you ever enjoyed an absolutely unique and thrilling experience? Unique, because it was unusual to the minutest detail. Thrilling, because you never knew at precisely what moment you were going to be hurled into an abyss!

In Colorado there is a certain rough, naked, mountainous country situated in a cool green valley, where you can picture weary, pointed little donkeys, whose slender legs seem scarcely able to sustain any burden. These little beasts are recruited one and moving just as the first cheerful rays of light beam into the valley.

Guided by hardened old prospectors, we strike the trail that led to the mines. Only a narrow trail about three feet wide, cut from solid rock, lay between us and the sharp, snow-capped peaks. Up and up, winding in and out, we crept, sometimes fairly ducking as, rounding a jutting rock, we saw an even narrower trail before us. Far above us the stiff, straight peaks stood silently; below us a stream sang merrily.

Soon we reached a grassy level where we were glad to stop and breathe easily once more. These mountain flowers grew in brilliant patches even at this height, warmed and nourished by the

sun for a few short hours each day. Truly a beautiful place this, peaceful and refreshing, but with a journey only half accomplished we could not tarry long.

Again we mounted our tiny animals and proceeded to wind higher and higher. At one place our guide pointed out a tiny, moving, brown line on a near mountain wall and told us to our amazement that it was a pack train, loaded with ore, creeping along a similar narrow way.

Rounding a certain rock, a wonderful vista was opened to us. Bare, gaunt mountains, their peaks black against the brilliant, blue sky, stood out in bold relief. Pine-covered valleys, some barely discernible through the grey cloak of mist, stretched away below us for miles. Silvery streams flowed quietly along, others dashed madly as if eager to explore new lands. One grew dizzy, gazing down from that perilous height.

Soon, ahead of us, arose the black smoke of the mine, and in ten minutes more we were again within sight of civilization. The mine was just like all others, a black hole in the ground surrounded by machinery; interesting, yes, but decidedly tame after our thrilling ride. To say the least we felt experienced, and I believe even the most timid of us rode bravely back down the narrow trail, in the glow of the waning sun.

Past the grass level, where the brilliant flowers now drooped past jutting rocks, away from the quiet valleys and somber mountain peaks, down from God's free country we rode, into the same little camp now ringing with the shrill laughter of women, and the ribald shouts of the miners, who turn their nights into day.

DOROTHY CRAIGER

Baja California

Lower California is a land where the "nameless fascination of the wild sierras and the vast plains has ever won for the Mother of California the hearts of those who have wandered among her majestic solitudes." It is a land of undeveloped resources and untraveled paths; of desert winds and cool sea breeze; a land where sickness is almost unknown.

There are a great many missions on the peninsula. To tell about them all would take volumes; therefore I shall write about the one which to me is the most interesting, San Borja. According to tradition, a devout Spanish señora left sixty thousand dollars for the establishment of three missions, to be in the most inaccessible

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

ible sites possible. All the missions were founded on the peninsula, but San Bonja is the most remote of the three. It was founded in 1762 in a broad arroyo surrounded by high mountains, more than two hundred miles from a city or town.

To reach the mission it is necessary to ride on pack mules along very steep and narrow trails which are so very rocky in some places that one must dismount. In only two places can water be had, and the climate is so warm that the greater part of the traveling is done during the night. Riding along by moonlight, past high hills and giant cardons and through rocky gorges, reminds one of the scene in *Rip Van Winkle*, where old Rip is climbing up the mountain and finds the little men playing at ninepins.

Strangers at the mission are always welcomed royally by the natives. The pack mules are fed and the newcomers are given the best of everything. There is plenty of spring water here, thus making possible the growing of chives, grapes, radishes, and vegetables.

Very little of the once grand mission are remaining; in fact, all that is left is the stone church, a few rooms, and a number of other ruins connected with them.

The church is a long narrow room, made of stone, with a winding staircase leading to an upper gallery and tower where hang the ancient bells which were brought from Spain. In the main room of the church is a large altar on which stands the image of the Patron Saint. On the tenth of October the image is adorned with gorgeous robes and flowers. Praying and feasting follow one after the other. This celebration continues for about a week—longer if the food lasts.

On the walls of the church there are old oil paintings, some well worthless now, but still much revered by the few Indian Indians living at the mission. In the floor and altar there are many holes where the less devout Mexicans have explored for hidden treasures.

Connected with the church are several small rooms, blackened with the grime of years and disfigured by the Mexicans who desire sacred objects. One of these rooms is a torture chamber. In the center of the room are a large bowl and an iron chain and, "worst of horrors! a skull, yellow with age," in the bowl. A number of the other rooms are used by poor Indian families who have nothing but a few blankets and tin dishes, and a dress apiece.

The natives are interesting as well as the mission. The natives work as little as possible and have a great many holidays. On

course this cannot be said of all, but it is true that an Indian never does that which his squaw can possibly find time to do.

The funerals are very hurried affairs. According to law the body must be buried within twenty-four hours after death and cannot be moved until five years have elapsed. If the deceased is an adult services are held; if a child there are none.

When a marriage is celebrated the ceremonies continue for twenty-eight days. The marriage papers must be sent to the capital and be signed by the governor. This takes many weeks, but when they finally arrive the ceremony is celebrated and there is dancing and feasting for a week.

The better classes of natives have adobe houses with palm roofs and dirt floors, but the poor people have only brush houses.

There are no railroads in Lower California, which makes it very difficult to travel great distances. But with the long rides to take on horseback over miles of untraveled country, the strange cacti to study, the beautiful flowers to pick, the desert winds and cool sea breezes to enjoy, one loves to go there to rest and become well and strong.

A New Advertisement

or

F. S. S.'s Inducements

Good library, College Hall,
Fine instructors, basket-ball;
Y.W.C.A., jolly sports,
Dances, glee club, tennis courts;
Six-block limits, lots of girls,
Flunks, receptions, Junior whirls;
Sleigh rides, coasting, gym, and books,
Best of climate, healthy looks.

Autobiographical

I am worn, I am old, I am black;
I've been punctured by pins and by many a tack;
I bring joy and sorrow alike to you all
I cause interest in springtime, in winter, in fall.
A gay poster here, the school schedule there;
In the corner, a ribbon from some maiden's hair.
I tell when the "Freshies" are out for a play,
I tell what the weather will be for the day.

A "lost" sign is tacked here, and there is a "found";
On this side "Economy" questions abound.
I bring greatest grief when I tell exam times,
And agonies, dire, when the staff demands rhymes.
I give forth my message, of news I've a horde,
For I'm your faithful servant, the Bulletin Board.

JULIA CECIL SWORD

A Dialogue

"Now Becky, I must ask you to bring the clothes back at least two days earlier than you have been doing."

"Deed, Miss Carlisle, I suttinly did inten' to bring them close back las' Tuesday mawnin' bright and early; in fac' I could o' brought 'em back Monday evenin' but my husban', he come home feelin' so bad Tuesday, and Wednesday he was took with the rheumatiz so bad that he couldn't even walk so that I've had to wait on him, and with all my other work you couldn't expec' me to bring these close back any soonah, 'deed you couldn't."

"But Becky, there is another matter which I wish to speak to you about. I give you so much starch and you never have the waists stiff."

"Why, Miss Carlisle, I'se suttinly astonished that you should accuse a po' innercent cullud lady like me of stealin' yo' starch; why, I wouldn't be seen in the street with anyone else's starch in my close, and as for them there waist-es not bein' stiff, why, the Queen of Sheby, herself, couldn't get 'em any stiffer. I'se afraid that you'se accusin' me falsely, Miss Carlisle. Oh, Miss Carlisle, I mus' tell you 'bout the weddin' we had to our house Wednesday evenin'; my sister's gal—she shore is a beautiful gal—got married, and, oh, Miss Carlisle, you'd orter have seen her, she looked so sweet, with a white dress on—white is so becomin' to her—and the mos' lovely pink slippahs and stockin's to match, she looked like an angel, and we had a band and my husban' killed six chickens, and we had a fine weddin' feast."

"You must have enjoyed yourselves, Becky, but I understood you to say that your husband was in bed Wednesday."

"Lor, Miss Carlisle, can't I explain anything to you. That wasn't this last Wednesday, it was the one before, and really, I mus' be goin', Miss Carlisle, 'cause my husban', he'll be coming home, I—er—mean he'll be lyin' in bed and wantin' his suppah, and if I do say so myself there's no one who ken hold a candle to old Becky's

cookin'. All right, Miss Carlisle, I shore will have the close lookin' so fine that the Queen of Sheby, herself, would be proud to wear 'em."

From a Junior's Standpoint

A laundry, a smokestack,
Some colors thereon;
A ladder, some Juniors,
The colors are gone.
The Seniors are frantic,
The Sophomores glum;
The Freshmen are happy—
The Juniors have won.

From a Senior's Standpoint

A laundry, a smokestack,
Some colors on high;
(Here's one on the Juniors,
All done on the sly).
They drag down the colors,
With all of their might,
But the Seniors regain them
That very same night.

Musical Organizations

Before this year the School has never been able to boast an orchestra. This year a girls' orchestra of eight pieces has been organized and is rehearsing regularly. It is hoped that the girls may be able to furnish music for some of the parties to be given during the year, and also for some of the different entertainments. The members of the orchestra are as follows:

First violins: Lillian Whitmore, Theodore Miles.

Mandolin: Bertha Hoefer.

Second violins: Mary Emily Merritt, Jeanne Boyd.

Cornet: Della Aschenbrenner.

Trombone: Gladys Weld.

Piano: Nona Hakes.

A glee club of forty-five voices has been organized and is being directed by the vocal teacher, Miss Edna Howard. Meetings are held regularly once a week, and some plans for entertainments of various kinds are now being considered. Laura Wolz, Elva Wil-

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

lard, and Jeanne Boyd constitute the Executive Committee appointed to take charge of the affairs of the club.

Recitals

The first recital of the year was given on the twelfth of October by Emil Liebling, visiting director in piano, assisted by the Music Faculty. The program was most entertaining and enjoyable in every respect.

The Music Faculty is contemplating a series of four Sunday afternoon recitals to be given during the year.

The Music Department is exceedingly large and good, and it hopes to give a number of private pupils' recitals before the holidays, in addition to the annual Christmas recital.

Liebling Recital Program, October 12

"Moonlight Sonata," *opus 27, No. 2*.....Beethoven
EMIL LIEBLING

"Allegro Appassionata," *opus 70*.....Saint-Saens
"Polonaise," *opus 14*.....Rubinstein

EMIL LIEBLING

"L'Été" (Summer).....Chaminade
MISS HOWARD

"Romance," 2d Concerto.....Wieniawski
MISS DUNN

"German Dances for Four Hands".....Beethoven
MISS KNIGHT AND MR. LIEBLING

"The Magic Song".....Meyer-Helmund
MISS HOWARD

a) "Melodie".....Ole Bull
b) "Mazur".....Mlynarski

MISS DUNN

"Lolita," *opus 39*

"Scherzo," *opus 40*

"Florence Valse de Concert"

EMIL LIEBLING

Diversion Club

The Diversion Club, including all students of the school as members, has been organized. This year the club will meet once every two months. Hazel Cooper was chosen president and Dorothy Creager treasurer. A committee of four was appointed to arrange for the first entertainment, to be given the first Saturday night in

November. Since the entertainments to be given will be plays, it is probable that one of the plays of last year, *Cousin Timmy*, will be repeated for the first meeting. The members will be required to pay ten cents admission to each entertainment, and it is hoped that in this way enough money will be raised to make possible the furnishing of the parlor of College Hall.

Junior College Notes

The Junior College Department has organized with a membership of twenty students. The following were chosen as officers: president, Eva Roberts; vice-president, Laurel Gillogly; treasurer, Jeanne Boyd. Miss Morrison was chosen class counselor. Dark blue and gold were decided upon for colors, and the jonquil for the flower. The "Who's Who" party, the first entertainment of the year, was given in College Hall by the college girls on September 10.

Senior Class Notes

The Senior class this year numbers thirteen. At the first meeting the following officers were elected: Frances Roberts, president; Winifred Seeger, vice-president and secretary; Harriet Wilk, treasurer; Miss Knight, class counselor. Old rose and silver were chosen as class colors, and the sweet pea as class flower. The girls are planning to plant the sweet peas themselves early next spring. The Senior rings are now ordered. On October 1 Miss Knight entertained the Seniors very pleasantly in College Hall parlor.

Junior Notes

The first meeting of the Junior class was held on September 10 in Agnes Blackmore's room. The officers elected were: Agnes Blackmore, president; Mary Seaman, vice-president; Dorothy Wright, secretary, and Donna Johnson, treasurer. At the second meeting, brown and gold were chosen as the class colors, and as the class flower, the yellow rose. The Junior class consists of twenty-six members.

The first party of the year, the Hallowe'en Prom, will be given by the Juniors on October 29, 1910, in the gymnasium. Great plans have been made and it promises to be a great success.

Sophomore Notes

During the first month of school the Sophomores held two meetings: the first, for the purpose of electing officers; the second,

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

to vote upon a motto which an appointed committee had selected. The following officers were elected: president, Gladys Smith; secretary, Lucille Hirsch; vice-president, Charmion Holbert; treasurer, Irene Johnson; counselor, Miss Bowman.

This was the motto chosen: *Ab uno disce omnes.*

Freshman Notes

The Freshman class met on September 26 and in spite of opposition from the Sophomores, organized with twenty-one members and elected the following officers: president, Margaret Creager; vice-president, Catherine Creager; secretary, Majorie Whiffen; treasurer, Gertrude Shaw; class counselor, Miss Green. The class colors are crimson and cream.

The "Who's Who" Party

The customary "Who's Who" party was given by the Junior College girls in the drawing-room of College Hall on the first Saturday night of the school term. Each girl wore her name in some artistic way, and a prize was offered to the one who wore her name in the most unique fashion. Many wore visiting cards in conspicuous places. Rose Kopf wore a rose in her hair, Florence Kelley had "Anybody Here Seen Kelley?" pinned on her dress; Margaret Gage carried a greengage plum, and Bertha Hocier had her name traced in darning cotton on the front of her skirt. The time between half-past seven and half-past nine was spent in dancing and conversation, frappé being served throughout the evening. Each girl went home feeling better acquainted than she had been when she had started out and anticipating a happy year if this were a sample of the good times.

Y.W.C.A. Notes

The members of the Y.W.C.A. cabinet met early in September for the purpose of planning the work of the year. An election to fill vacancies in the offices and on the standing committees resulted as follows: president, Frances Roberts; vice-president, Mary Seaman; secretary, Blanche Grimes; treasurer, Eva Roberts; corresponding secretary, Jeanne Boyd; chairmen of committees: finance, Eva Roberts; prayer meeting, Mabel Dougherty; intercollegiate, Winifred Seeger; missionary and Bible, Lillian Whitmore; social, Vesta Grimes; practical service, Margaret Middlekauf; membership, Mary Seaman.

The work accomplished last year in so many fields of usefulness

serves as a genuine inspiration to the workers this year. The addition of thirty members from among the new girls, many of whom have brought helpful suggestions, and the general interest manifested in the work have made the cabinet feel that the Y.W.C.A. may become a still more successful and helpful organization in the life of the school. The Association will continue to be responsible for the Vesper Service one Sunday evening in each month and to hold the customary Friday evening prayer meeting. The practical service committee has placed barrels in each residence hall, where cast-off clothing which is still in good repair may be placed and later sent where it will be useful. This committee will also contribute to the finances of the Association by conducting occasional sales of cookies and sandwiches to the members of the school family during recreation hours; and to the order and neatness of the buildings in general, by keeping the pound, where lost and misplaced articles may be redeemed upon payment of a small fine.

On Saturday evening, September 24, in the parlors of College Hall the social committee gave the annual party to the school in order that all the girls might become better acquainted. The amusements of the evening were games and dancing, interspersed with frequent visits to the frappé bowl in the dining-room and to the fire-places where marshmallows were toasted.

The Association will send two delegates to the State Conference to be held in Decatur, November 4-6.

Miss Adams, the state secretary for associations in schools and colleges in Illinois, plans to visit the Association early in November to confer with the members of the cabinet.

The missionary and Bible-study committees are arranging courses of Bible reading and mission study for the year.

Exchanges

As it is somewhat early in the year for exchanges only a few have been received by the *Quarterly*. It is our wish to exchange papers with a number of schools this year, for we desire to make our paper, which is comparatively new, known and welcomed in a great many places, and we, in return, will thoroughly enjoy the help and pleasure gained from reading other school papers. We should be glad to lengthen our exchange column, and we hope we may be able to do so in our next issue.

The June number of *The Jabberwock*, published by the Girls'

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

Latin School Boston, Mass., is the last school paper we have received. It is one of our best exchanges and we should like to have it with us this year.

The *Young Eagle*, from Saint Clara College, Sinsinawa, Wis., contains some interesting articles. The whole paper is brightened by the insertion of some attractive views of buildings and campus, entitled, "Around the Mound with a Kodak."

The Elgin High School *Mirror*, Elgin, Ill., is a new exchange. It is devoted almost entirely to personals and athletics, but nevertheless, is interesting.

The Reunion Society

The Reunion Society of Frances Shimer is the oldest society in connection with the School, having been organized in 1859, fifty-one years ago, six years after the founding of the Seminary. The original constitution is in the possession of the Society today, and is an interesting document. It begins with a "Preamble" as follows: "We, the students of the Mount Carroll Seminary, in compliance with the wishes of our teachers, and for the purpose of renewing our school-day associations from time to time, and for our mutual benefit, do adopt for our regulation and government the following Constitution and By-Laws."

In early days the programs presented by the society were distinctly literary, at least in aim, and consisted of essays, poems, debates, and addresses interspersed with music, always of a high grade, for which the school was noted. Later the meetings have taken on a more social character, the programs being very informal. As we grow older we love more and more to talk over old times, so that reminiscences form a prominent part of almost every program. If we cannot smile now quite as heartily as we did the first time we heard about what happened when Dr. Metcalf and Mr. George Campbell came to school in pinafores, nevertheless we can still smile, and we like to hear over and over again about the "good old times."

But there has come to be a feeling among many of the old students that our Reunion Society is not attaining the highest usefulness of which it is capable. We do not want to curtail the informality of the meetings, nor to lessen the opportunity for "reminiscences"; but we feel that in addition to this the Society ought to do something more, something that will be a real benefit to ourselves and to the school. Other schools receive very material aid

from similar societies; in some cases endowments are raised, or partly so, by societies of the alumnae.

The finances of our society have always been conducted on a penny basis. From the time in 1871 when the minutes show that the treasurer reported a balance of twenty-eight cents, down to the present time, when it falls to the lot of the Executive Committee to collect "ten cents apiece" to pay for coffee and ice cream for our picnic supper, the society has not had proper funds to provide for even its limited expenses. The reason for this is clear, and it can just as easily be remedied. We ought to have an initiation fee for every new member who joins the Society, and after that, small yearly dues from every member. The question was discussed at our meeting in June and will probably be acted upon at our next meeting.

Last year, in response to the feeling that the Society ought to attempt something definitely helpful to the school, and largely as a result of the efforts of Mrs. Florence Turney McKee and the other members of the Executive Committee, the Society stood sponsor for one of the most successful recitals given during the school year. Metcalf Hall was filled almost to overflowing, and aside from bringing to the community a fine musical event, as a result, the Society has something like fifty or sixty dollars in its treasury. That is quite an improvement over the twenty-eight cents of 1871!

As old students, the past with its memories and traditions is immeasurably dear to us. But we will be worthy of our past and of the efforts which were then put forth in our behalf only as we contribute what we can of interest and influence to the present and the future of our school.

Let us see to it that the Reunion Society does its part in furthering the efficiency of the school we are proud to represent.

MARY DEWHURST MILES, Class of 1895

The Scattered Family

Miss Martha Powell, class of '09, is teaching this year in Correctionville, Ia.

Miss Zella A. Petty, class of '09, who is in Cornell College, forwards subscription to the *Quarterly*.

Miss Angie C. Benton, '80, University Park, Colo., recently forwarded subscription to the *Quarterly*.

Miss Marinda Betsy Smith, a student here a few years ago, graduated from Beloit College in the class of '10.

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

Mrs. Grace Woodin Engles, a student of the Seminary in '82-83, now resides in Lanark, Ill.

Miss M. Genieve Taylor, class of '98, is now director of music in the State Normal School, Duluth, Minn.

Mrs. Maud Menefee Bradley, a pupil here about '87-88, writes from Lake Villa, Ill., in the interest of a friend.

Miss Alice Gibbs, '99, writes of a trip to Colorado in search of health. She expects to spend some time in the West.

Miss Myrtle Barthel, who was in school before the fire, was married in June to Robert E. Dickson of Waukon, Ia.

Miss Edna Vida Bruce, a pupil in '08-9, asks that the *Quarterly* be sent to her at 4600 Ellis Ave., care of Kenwood Institute.

Mrs. Mary Crawford Winter, an old student, forwarding her subscription from Cedar Rapids, Ia., writes a pleasant letter.

Mrs. Isabel D. Hazzen, of Lynn, Mass., a teacher in the Seminary for many years, spent some weeks in Mt. Carroll in July.

Miss Angeline Beth Hostetter of the class of '02 is instructor in Latin here for the year 1910-11 during Miss Hobson's absence.

Miss Edith L. Gould, of Eaton, Ohio, writes of her pleasure in reading the June issue of the *Quarterly*, and incloses subscription.

Mrs. Judith Weill Lowenthal, '01, writes from 4601 Michigan Ave., Chicago, in the interest of a little friend who wishes a school.

The address of Mrs. Bessie Dodson Wolf, class of '02, has recently been changed to Alta, Ia., where her husband has a position in a bank.

Miss M. D. Vernon, of the class of '76, of the Under-Feed Stoker Company, Chicago, forwards two years' subscription for the *Quarterly*.

Mrs. Rose Lane Leake, a student in '05-6, Amboy, Ill., asks for a catalogue, and speaks of the two Amboy girls who are now pupils in the School.

Mrs. Mary Tapscott Edmunds, of Pendleton, Ore., class of '95, forwards subscription with recent letter containing greetings to former students.

Greetings were received at the opening of school from Mrs. Mary Calkins Chassell, Des Moines, Ia., who was at the time traveling in Canada.

Miss Susan Biethan, of the class of '03, writes from her home in Blackfoot, Ida., concerning a prospective pupil, and of her interest in the School.

Miss L. L. West, formerly a student, forwards subscription from

425 Kuhn Bldg., Spokane, Wash., where she has charge of the Inland Viavi Company.

Miss Margaret Lawson, of the class of '95, sends names of prospective pupils from her home in Minneapolis, and incloses subscription to the *Quarterly*.

Mrs. Louellyn Rogers Shackelton, Chicago, class of '98, recently forwarded subscription for the *Quarterly* and speaks of the enjoyment she has received in reading it.

Announcement has been received of the marriage of Mrs. Anna Davis Brower, class of '95, to Mr. Francis A. Durlacher. They are at home at 6049 Kimbark Ave., Chicago.

Miss Anna Reese of the class of '06 is now instructor in botany in one of the high schools of Gary, Ind. Her work began July 1. Her address is 704 Pennsylvania St., Gary.

Miss M. Anna Morgan, Buda, Ill., class of '07, writes giving names of friends who are looking for a school, and inclosing subscription for the *Quarterly* with best wishes.

Mrs. Jessie Matkin Fisher, of the class of '01, Danville, Ill., has recently communicated with the Dean with reference to neighbors of hers who are looking for a school for girls.

Miss Floy E. Welch, of the class of '09, forwards subscription with good words for the School. Her sister Marian was a pupil here last year and expects to return to school shortly.

Some time ago word was received from R. G. Clevenger, Chicago, of the death of his wife, who was Miss Bertha Zientarsky. She will be remembered by many as a pupil here in the year 1906-7.

A recent note has been received from Miss Florence Lougee, class of '08, Council Bluffs, Ia. She gives the names of girls who are going away to school and forwards money for the *Quarterly*.

Miss Lynne Waddell of Shepherd College, State Normal School, Shepherdstown, W. Va., in forwarding subscription, speaks in very high terms of the excellence of the work appearing in the *Quarterly*.

Mrs. Minnie Harding, Santa Cruz, Cal., an old student, has been in correspondence with the Dean concerning entering one of her daughters. She has two daughters, one of whom enters Berkeley and the other is yet in the high school.

Miss Caroline Sterner, Springville, Ia., writes inclosing the name of a girl who is looking for a good school. Miss Sterner has a large class of music pupils. She recently was maid of honor at the Dickson-Barthel wedding at Waukon, Ia.

The name of Miss Helen Moore, 39 Williams St., Worcester,

Mass., has recently been added to our list of old students, and also the name of Mrs. Mabel Newcomer Reichenbach, formerly of Lanark, Ill., now of 1345 C St., Lincoln, Neb.

Mrs. Elia Campbell Whitman of the class of '85, Burton, Wash., forwards subscriptions to the *Quarterly* and speaks of the fact that her husband has returned to China, she remaining in Washington to keep the home for her two boys and two girls.

A recent letter from Miss Mary Hall, who was in school last year and the year before and was obliged to leave on account of her health, states that she will attend school nearer home, and wishes that she might return to Frances Shimer.

Announcement was received of the marriage in June of Miss Vilona Brownlee, '93, and Mr. James Asbury Palmer. They are at home at Sioux Falls, S.D., where Mr. Palmer is teaching. They made a brief visit to the School during the summer.

Miss Lela Moore, '08, writes from Ames, Ia., where she is now studying, that she appreciates more and more the four years spent at Frances Shimer. She speaks of seeing recently Zoa Branton and Ellen Feuling, class of '08, and Floy Welch, '09.

Mrs. Jennie Sanford Gosney of the class of '98 now resides in Kansas City, Mo. Forwarding her subscription to the *Quarterly*, she speaks of a visit to Mrs. Effie Schriener Pfoutz in Lanark last summer. She is glad to continue her interest in the school.

Mrs. John N. Crouse, a teacher in Seminary days, writes from the Chicago Kindergarten College, 1200 Michigan Ave., of which she is one of the principals. She speaks of the pleasant impressions of the time spent here and of her desire to visit the School again.

Miss Jeanne M. Boyd, '12 college, and Miss Laura Wolz, '11 academy, spent a part of the summer in Wyoming. August 5 they gave a recital for the benefit of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Buffalo, Wyo. Two of the pieces given were composed by Miss Boyd.

Miss Hazel Prom, of Milton, N.D., who was in school before the fire, forwarding subscription to the *Quarterly*, says that she spent last winter in Washington, D.C., studying vocal music. On her way home she visited Abbie Wilson, Fannie Carr, Hazel Goff, and Louise Palmer.

George H. Thummel, clerk of the United States District Court, Omaha, Neb., a student here in Seminary days, writes to Mr. Rine-walt asking for a copy of the *Quarterly*, and expresses pleasure in

perusing the copy of the paper sent him containing the account of the anniversary exercises.

H. H. C. Miller, a pupil in the days when boys were admitted, states that he has received the June number of the *Quarterly* and has read it with great interest and pleasure, and incloses check for two years' subscription to be mailed to his home address at 1707 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Mrs. Margaret Fisher Turman, of the class of '87, resides in Terre Haute, Ind. Her husband is professor in the State Normal School, which has perhaps fifteen hundred pupils. Mr. and Mrs. Turmann have been connected with this school for fourteen years. A *Quarterly* goes regularly to this household.

Mrs. Mary Allison Jenks of the class of '62, Sacramento, Cal., recently won a silver medal in the matrons' oratorical contest in Sacramento. A very pleasant letter came from her after she had received the June *Quarterly* containing the account of Commencement. She forwards subscription for two years.

The Sunday morning issue (October 2) of the *Iowa State Register and Leader* contained an article entitled "Iowa Women Whom All Iowa Delights to Honor," giving several columns to Mrs. Mary Calkins Chassell, class of '84, who has recently returned from a trip through Canada and the northern lake region. The paper also contains pictures of Mrs. Chassell, her little namesake, Mary Briggs, her mother, the home of her father in Wyoming, Ia., and of the house in Oneida County, N.Y., built by an ancestor in 1804, now the property of Mrs. Chassell and her sister, Mrs. Elva Calkins Briggs, of St. Paul.

Improvements

During the past summer, no new buildings were erected and no additions were made to former buildings. On the other hand, many things were done which were expensive and which have added greatly to the effectiveness of the school plant. All rooms not hitherto supplied in College Hall were furnished completely, and all walls of halls and pupils' rooms were tinted. Practically the whole of West Hall was retinted. Improvements were made in the hot-water system in Hathaway; the steam plant was improved by putting concrete conduits about the large steam mains which carry steam to the buildings, and in the installation of a steam pump for rain water. The facilities of the commons were improved in the addition of a steam dish-washer, along with a potato creamer and peeler. Dearborn Hall was calcimined throughout. The outside woodwork

of Metcalf and Dearborn Halls was painted thoroughly. Great attention was given to the grounds, and practically no incomplete spots were left when the girls reached the School, September 7. Additions were likewise made to the scientific equipment and to the studio and to the library, though not as large as are desired. The buildings were gone over inside with thoroughness to make them perfectly sanitary in every respect.

The Opening

The attendance at the fall opening shows a great increase over any previous year, a total number of pupils of 139 having registered up to October 15, 99 being house pupils. This shows an increase of 27 over the same time last year in the number of pupils in the buildings and approximately the same total increase. When College Hall was completed a year ago, it was felt that provision had been made for growth for some years to come. As a matter of fact, the capacity of all three of the dormitories is taxed to the utmost, as the theoretical capacity is only 102, with 99 pupils actually having rooms engaged and occupying them, leaving a very narrow margin. The increase is all along the line, except in the grade work. No effort was made to secure pupils below the eighth grade, especially in the buildings. The increase in the college department is very marked. The number in music is greatly enlarged. Some of the scholastic classes are so large that it has been necessary to divide them. There is a decided increase, also, in elocution. The pupils come from widely separated sections of the country, these states being represented: Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming, California, Missouri, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Japan.

The following persons are giving instruction in the School in the current year:

WILLIAM PARKER MCKEE, Dean and Instructor in History and Political Economy.

ELSIE GARLAND HOBSON, Lady Principal and Instructor in Latin, absent for a year of study, returning September, 1911.

ELSIE MORRISON, Acting Lady Principal and Instructor in Science and Mathematics.

FLORENCE TURNEY MCKEE, Instructor in Psychology and Biblical Literature.

ANGELINE BETH HOSTETTER, Instructor in Latin.

ELIZABETH BARNES, Instructor in Expression and Physical Culture.

THE FRANCES SHIMER QUARTERLY

MARGARET JOHNSON, Instructor in German and French.

ELIZABETH CONNOR, Instructor in English.

BERTHA RUTH BOWMAN, Instructor in Domestic Science.

DELANA E. BAILEY, Instructor in Stenography.

MARY R. PAYNE, German and History.

MARTHA GREEN, Introductory Department.

GRACE BAWDEN, Instructor in Art.

EMIL LIEBLING, Chicago, Visiting Director of Piano Music.

DORA G. KNIGHT, Instructor in Piano and History of Music and Art.

EDNA A. HOWARD, Instructor in Vocal Music.

GRACE DUNN, Instructor in Violin and Assistant in Piano.

JEANNE M. BOYD, Instructor in Harmony and Assistant in Piano.

Problems for the Trustees

The development of the School has reached a point at which no single advance step can be taken without others. It will not meet the situation to erect a new dormitory, even supposing we had the money to do it with, for the reason that forty more girls could not be accommodated in the present dining-room or in the music hall or domestic science rooms. Moreover, the laundry could not take care of that much more work as now built, neither could the steam plant heat another building with its present boiler capacity. It is a question, too, whether the instruction in the scholastic department could be cared for successfully with forty more pupils, in Metcalf Hall. It seems necessary that a strong course in chemistry should be given another year, which would require another recitation room in Metcalf. Furthermore, the library is inadequate, both in books and in space. If the trustees should undertake to meet the needs of the School fully for 1911-12, it would be necessary for them to erect a new dormitory with separate commons, double the capacity of the steam plant, and erect another new building for library and domestic science. The steam plant would need to be moved, which would involve the removal of barn and other outbuildings. The erection of a steam plant adequate for power purposes and laundry would involve a very considerable expenditure. Practically, it would mean, altogether, the erection of three new buildings at a total cost of not less than forty thousand dollars. The problem for the trustees is whether to be contented with the present happy situation with everything full and everybody busy, or to launch out on another campaign for expansion all along the line. The situation would not be so serious if necessary funds were available for these advance movements, which they are not.

